

not be available to host device 102 alone. Accessory device 100 can present various input/output features in an open (lid) state as shown in FIG. 1. Accordingly, accessory device 100 can include base portion 104. Base portion 104 can be pivotally connected to lid portion 106 by way of a clutch assembly hidden from view by cosmetic wall 108. Base portion 104 can be configured to accommodate various user input devices such as keyboard 110. Base portion 104 can also include port 112 having a size and shape in accordance with host device 102. In the described embodiment, host device 102 takes the form of a handheld portable computing device having display 114, output audio port 116, button 118 and interface 120 that facilitates communication with accessory device 100 when captured by port 112.

[0027] It should be noted that display 114 can have touch input capabilities by which it is meant that a touch event at display 114 can be interpreted by processing resources carried by host device 102 that can, in turn, be used to control an operation or operations of host device 102 and/or accessory device 100. The touch event can take the form of a gesture. The gesture can include a single finger touch event such as a swipe or a tap. A finger gesture can include touch events from more than one finger applied in unison. The gesture can be sensed by a sensing circuit in display 114 and converted to electrical signals that are passed to a processing unit carried by host device 102 for evaluation. In this way, accessory device 100 can be at least partially controlled by touch. For example, a finger swipe at display 114 can be used to alter a presentation of video content provided by display 122. On the other hand, input provided at display 122 or keyboard 110 can be used to alter an operation of host device 104.

[0028] Display 122 can display visual content such as a graphical user interface, still images such as photos as well as video media items such as movies. Display 122 can display images using any appropriate technology such as a liquid crystal display (LCD), OLED, etc. Accessory device 100 can also include image capture device 124 located on a transparent portion of display trim 126. Image capture device 126 can be configured to capture both still and video images.

[0029] FIG. 2 shows in front facing perspective view the electronic host device and electronic accessory device of FIG. 1 coupled together in accordance with the described embodiments. System 200 can be referred to as a cooperating system in that host device 102 and accessory device 100 cooperate with each other and act in unison as a single entity. In other words, a symbiotic relationship between host device 102 and accessory device 100 can be established such that each complements the other and provides functionality and resources not available to either taken separately. For example, icon 202 presented at display 114 can be mirrored on display 122. Moreover, an input event (such as a finger swipe) at icon 202 can be interpreted to control or alter an operation of accessory device 100. For example, if icon 202 represents an audio/video control icon, the visual and/or audio content provided at display 122 or speakers (not shown) can be altered accordingly. Thus, display 114 can be different than display 122 in various embodiments, such as where the display 114 of the host device 102 provides a control or input interface that is configured to control the display 122 of the accessory device 100. Although such a symbiotic relationship between the host device 102 and the accessory device 100 can be established, it should again be

emphasized that the host device can operate as a stand-alone device without the accessory device, but the accessory device is inoperable without the host device.

[0030] FIG. 3 shows in front facing perspective view the electronic host device and electronic accessory device of FIG. 1 coupled together in an alternative orientation in accordance with the described embodiments. This other embodiment is provided in the form of host device 102 captured in another orientation. The change in orientation can be used to alter a basic set of operations such as recognition of left vs. right-handed. System 300 can be substantially similar to system 200 above, and may also include a host device 102 having a display 114 and button 118, as well as an accessory device 100 having a display 122. As shown, the host device 102 is oriented at a 180 degree angle within the port of accessory device 100 with respect to the orientation of the host device in system 200 above. This orientation for system 300 can accommodate left-handed users of the system, for example.

[0031] FIG. 4 shows in front facing perspective view an alternative host device coupled together with an alternative accessory device in accordance with the described embodiments. System 400 can be similar in some regards to system 200 and 300 above. Unlike these foregoing systems, however, system 400 includes an electronic accessory device 101 and an electronic host device 103 that are different than the foregoing accessory devices and host devices. For example, host device 103 can be a tablet computer, which is shown as being positioned within a suitable port of and coupled to the alternative electronic accessory device 101. As will be readily appreciated, host device 103 in the form of a tablet computer can have a relatively large display 115, which may function as a touchscreen. The host device 103 can also have one or more buttons 119, a camera 131, and various other tablet or other alternative computing device features. The alternative accessory device 101 may still be in the form factor of a laptop computer, for example, and may have one or more similar components of the foregoing accessory devices, such as a keyboard 110.

[0032] Alternative accessory device 101 may not have its own separate display, however, since the display of host device 103 may be sufficiently large for the overall system 400. Alternative accessory device 101 may also have a touchpad 130 and/or other alternative or additional input or output components, so as to enhance one or more operations or usages of the host device 103 in various embodiments. Again, it is specifically contemplated that the host device 103 is a fully functional electronic device having its own CPU, which may be operable by itself without the accessory device 101. Conversely, it is specifically contemplated that that accessory device 101 is inoperable without the host device 103. That is, the accessory device 103 does not have its own CPU or other comprehensive controlling processor, and cannot operate without the control of a separate host device that is in communication with and configured to control the accessory device.

[0033] FIG. 5 shows a flowchart detailing a method of enhancing an electronic host device in accordance with the described embodiments. Process 500 can be carried out at least in part by an operating component carried by the electronic host device, for example. Process 500 can start at 502 by receiving the electronic host device at an electronic accessory device. These devices can be any suitable host device and accessory device, such as those set forth in the